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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

HASHIMOTO, K.

Atty. Ref.: 4105-27

Serial No. 10/721,771

TC/A.U.: 2621

Filed: November 26, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

For: SMOOTHING PROCESSOR, SMOOTHING PROCESSING METHOD
AND SMOOTHING PROCESSING PROGRAM OF IMAGE DATA

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March 8, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a European Search Report mailed December 29, 2004 in the counterpart European application and a copy of each non-U.S. patent document cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

HASHIMOTO, K.
Serial No. 10/721,771

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for any fees required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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A circular stamp with the text "OIPE" at the top and "JC174" at the bottom. The date "MAR 08 2005" is in the center. The bottom half of the circle contains the text "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE". There is a horizontal line for a signature at the bottom.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

4105-27

10/721,771

HASHIMOTO K

FILING DATE

TC/A II

November 26, 2003

2621

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

***EXAMINER
INITIAL**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

"Signal encoding techniques" Online! 31 January 2002, XP002291688; retrieved from the Internet:
URL:http://www.its.bth.se/courses/etc019/handouts/Large_ch6_signals.pdf; retrieved on 2004-08-09; page 1-page 11.

*Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.